

PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY FOR A Pollution Study

The study of environmental problems is an important component of an environmental science course. Some of the environmental problems that can be conveniently studied using probeware are: acid deposition (pH Sensor and Conductivity Probe), heat islands and temperature inversion (Temperature Probe), indoor air pollution (CO₂ Gas Sensor), soil salinization (Conductivity Probe), and water pollution (Conductivity Probe, Dissolved Oxygen Probe, pH Sensor, Temperature Probe, Turbidity Sensor, and other sensors).

Because there are many different sensors that you might choose to use in this experiment, the sequence will differ from the usual sequence in that you will choose a researchable question prior to the Preliminary Activity. In this experiment, you will use reference sources to find out more about environmental problems, choose a researchable question, do the Preliminary Activity, and then you will do your research. Some topics to consider in your reference search are:

- acid deposition
- eutrophication
- heat islands
- indoor air pollution
- soil salinization
- temperature inversion
- thermal pollution
- water pollution

Your teacher will suggest a procedure for your Preliminary Activity that is tailored to your needs based on your chosen research question, the sensor(s) you will use, and your previous probeware experience.

QUESTIONS

1. Which sensor(s) will you use in this experiment?

2. What is your research question?

3. Why did you choose this research question?